

WAR NEWS

In reference to the operations of the Confederates in Western Virginia and along the line of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, we learn from the Wheeling papers that at Morgantown four companies of Federal troops were captured, and at Greenland Gap some eighty more taken prisoners. Some severe fighting took place at the last named town, and the Confederates suffered considerable loss. On Wednesday night, the forces engaged in guarding the bridge across the Monongahela river, were attacked and driven off, and it is believed that the Confederates captured the artillery planted for its defence. The bridge was destroyed. The latest advices state that a considerable body of Confederates are at Bridgeport, a station on the Northwestern Virginia railroad, and it is expected that a fight will take place in the vicinity. It is also believed that the Southern troops have all retired from the line of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad.

Another plan is to be tried to reduce Vicksburg—this time water is to be the element employed. It is proposed to submerge the country on either side of the Mississippi down, so that the position will be rendered untenable. A dispatch from Milliken's Bend says that on the 24th orders were given for Gen. Grant's whole army to march with six days rations. It is said that at least four of the six transports that attempted to run the Vicksburg batteries on the night of the 23d, were sunk, and possibly all of them were lost. The firing was heavy and incessant from midnight until daylight. There is a rumor that the Confederate rams up the Yazoo river are ready to come out and try their fortunes in the Mississippi. Admiral Porter sends official dispatches of the passage of his fleet by the Vicksburg batteries, the leading points of which we have already published. The report that four transports were lost by the Federal forces in the last attempt to run past the Vicksburg batteries, is denied by a New York Tribune correspondent, who says that only one transport was lost.

The latest advices from North Carolina state that a movement was made to attack the Confederates in the rear at Washington, which caused them to raise the siege and retreat towards Kinston and Goldsboro'. The Federal forces followed until ordered back by General Foster, having lost forty killed and wounded. The Confederate loss is not reported. Considerable skirmishing is reported to have taken place near Newbern, in which the Confederates were repulsed, and a large number taken prisoners.

Dispatches from Murfreesboro' say that the advance of the Confederate army is confirmed by deserters. Accounts are slightly confused as to positions, but it seems certain that Gens. Johnston and Bragg are going to offer battle, and that a fight will take place at an early day.

Gen. Ellet, with his marine brigade, in his operations up the Tennessee, has destroyed every grist and saw-mill and every distillery on the river. The towns of Hamburgh and Eastport were also destroyed.

Admiral Porter's detailed report of the passage of his fleet beyond Vicksburg has reached the Navy Department. Except the loss of the Henry Clay, no serious damage was done to any of the vessels. No person was killed or lost, and only twelve were wounded, most of them slightly.

Gen. Banks, in his operations in the Teche country, appears to have encountered losses, whilst the extent of his captures were over-rated. The correspondent of the Boston Courier states that only three hundred Confederate prisoners had reached New Orleans up to the 18th ult.; that but three boats were destroyed; and that whilst a large number of Federal wounded occupied houses on the Teche, six hundred others had been brought to New Orleans. "About the killed," he adds, "we are not permitted to know."

The Wheeling Intelligencer, of Thursday says: "The Confederates proceeded from Morgantown to Uniontown, where they committed

some depredations, and returned by way of Blacksville towards Fairmont, passing within 13 miles of Waynesburg. There was a good deal of alarm at Waynesburg, and the cashier of the bank there destroyed \$60,000 of the bank's issue, for fear of its falling into their hands."

The New York Express, of yesterday afternoon, says: "The news we have now shows that Gen. Hooker is crossing both above and below Fredericksburg—with the intent to reach the rear of Fredericksburg, and to cut off the railroad that feeds the city and the Confederate army there. Chancellorsville, the point named as the point of concentration, is in the rear of Fredericksburg—a place of no note. The 'strategy' is a perilous one if the enemy is in force at Fredericksburg, and must lead to a fight—perilous, if the enemy can attack the columns when divided, and leading to battle, because battle will thus be necessarily imposed upon the enemy."

Gen. Stahl returned to Fairfax Court House on Sunday morning, from an extended reconnaissance of the whole region of country between the Rappahannock, the Blue Ridge and the Potomac, and the immediate front occupied by the troops of this department, in the course of which he took about forty prisoners, thirty-eight being members of Moseby's cavalry.

One hundred and six prisoners, captured by Gen. Hooker's forces near Fredericksburg, on the 28th ult., reached Washington on the 29th. They were confined in the guardhouse for the night, and yesterday morning were transferred to the Old Capitol. They consist chiefly of members of the 6th Louisiana and 13th Georgia infantry.

A fearful Death in the Cairo Pest House.

[From the Cairo Ill., Gazette.]

About three weeks ago, a strong, vigorous man fell a victim to the small-pox, and was placed in the Cairo pest house. He was a steamboatman, a comparative stranger in the city, and consequently without any claim upon the citizens for those attentions so soothing to sickness, further than such as he could call for in the name of humanity. From the moment he entered the pest house until he died, he remained in a state of raving delirium.

The nurses, two females, found it dangerous to visit his room. On the night of his death, his screams could be heard by every person living within a quarter of a mile of the pest house. The nurses, through a hope of being able to pacify him, entered his room, but the moment he caught sight of them, he seized a chair and attempted to brain them. A more fearful picture than he presented at that moment can scarcely be imagined. His face festering with sores, his eyes wild and restless, and looking as if they would burst from their sockets, and his whole appearance haggard, it is not surprising that his nurses were greatly terrified. He dashed the chair at them, which missing his aim, passed through the window, carrying with it a sash and shattering every glass remaining.

Evidently exasperated at the failure of his purpose he seized a second chair and attempted to use it. The nurses now laid hold of him, but he was too strong for them to manage. He threw them off, and clenched in his hand a long blade of the broken glass and with it sought to stab them. They escaped unhurt from the room, however, closed the door and resisted his attempts to follow them. Finding the door secured against him he again resumed his screaming and kept it up till late in the evening, when death kindly called him from his dreadful condition to another world. With the last terrific scream he fell on the floor. The fall was heard; the nurses hastened to his room. He was dead.

The sale by the Chevalier Hulsemann, of some of his most valuable effects, makes the third of the diplomatic corps that has manifested a determination to change residence from Washington temporarily, if not permanently.

IMPORTANT FROM EUROPE.

The steamship Europa, which left Queens-town on the 19th of April, reached Halifax on Thursday on her voyage to Boston. Her news is three days later than the advices of the Edinburg, and is of a very important character both as regards the probable advent of serious complications in Europe, arising from the Polish revolution, and the new attitude likely to be assumed by France and England towards the Government of the United States. Mr. Adams, U. S. Minister in London, had given a special written license to a vessel to carry a cargo of munitions of war, intended for the use of the Mexican army against France, to the port of Matamoras. The license seems to have been in the shape of a letter addressed to Admiral Dupont guaranteeing the character of the cargo, so that she might pass the Federal cruisers. Mr. Adams' letter was made public, and its contents created quite an excited and irritable state of feeling in England against the United States more particularly when contrasted with their action in the case of the Peterhoff. A deputation of British merchants and ship-pers engaged in the Mexican trade had mentioned the matter in an address to Earl Russell, and the London Times had furiously assailed the action of Mr. Adams in attempting to grant "tickets of leave" to Englishmen to trade to the "neutral territory" of the Mexican coast. The London Times says there has been nothing equal to his assumption "since bulls were issued from Rome overriding the laws of England." The London News says the irritation between England and the United States is increasing. The Paris Moniteur of the 18th of April published a very significant paragraph on the subject of the relations existing between the Cabinets in Washington and London. The Moniteur observes: "The growing hostility of the United States, towards England is exciting uneasiness in London.—The last despatches from the Washington Government have a character of increasing irritation."

The seizure of the Peterhoff, and the detention of her officers, have also intended to increase the hostility of the English people against the United States, which is said to have been still further aggravated by the tenor of Mr. Seward's last dispatches. The case of the alleged Confederate privateer Alexandria was to be brought before Parliament. It has been officially denied by the Government that spies had been employed to watch the Liverpool dockyards. The Polish question still occupied the attention of the leading European powers, Spain and Italy having given in their adhesion to the position assumed by England, France and Austria. The amnesty offered by the Czar had not only been rejected by the Poles, but had stimulated them to renewed exertions to free themselves from Russian domination. Sweden is actively engaged in reorganizing her navy and strengthening her maritime defences. The Confederate loan was at one and three-fourths per cent. premium.

Dr. Sunderland preached a sermon in his church in Washington, on Thursday, on National Sins, in which he expressed the most decided opinions against slavery, and "was particularly severe on rebel sympathizers."

Preliminary movements in reference to the municipal election have commenced in Washington. The parties appear to be Unconditional Union Men and ultra Unconditional Union men—many of the latter said to be new comers to the city.

Gold, in New York, yesterday, 151½.

Thursday last, designated by the President as a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer, was more universally observed in Baltimore than in any other of the large cities. In Philadelphia and New York there seems to have been only a partial suspension of business, with churches slimly attended.